Death, the price of freedom

"If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed."

(John 8:36)

Some of our young people, it is sad to say, neither know nor seem to care what the price of freedom can cost. I read a letter Abraham Lincoln wrote to a mother who had five sons killed in the civil war. This is what he wrote:

"Dear Madam, I have been shown in the files of the war department a statement of the adjutant general of Massachusetts that you are the mother of five sons who have died gloriously in the field of battle. I feel how weak and fruitless must be any words of mine which should attempt to beguile you from the grief of a loss so overwhelming. But I cannot refrain from tendering to you the consolation that may be found in the thanks of the republic they died to save. I pray that our heavenly Father may assuage [relieve] the anguish of your bereavement, and leave you only the cherished memory of the loved and lost, and the solemn pride that must be yours to have laid so costly a sacrifice upon the altar of freedom.

Yours very sincerely and respectfully,

Abraham Lincoln."

If it hasn't been taken down, or torn down, this letter stills hangs on the walls at Oxford University.

Those who can dismiss such a sacrifice with a mere shrug of the shoulders—or worse, a disgusting laugh, neither love human life nor place any value upon freedom.

What was the price for our freedom from sin and the judgment of God upon [sin]? What price had to be paid to free us from the curse of God's broken law? Nothing short of the death of God's only begotten Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

What a price! All humanity dying at once as a sacrifice could not obtain such freedom. "Free from the law, oh happy condition, Jesus has bleed (there is the price - paid and accepted), and now there is remission."

Those who can live without a heart hungry for an interest in this freedom, do not love Him who died, neither do they know anything about the awful slavery they are presently in—to sin and the devil.

[Beloved] *"Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherefore Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage"* (Galatians 5:1). [AMEN!]—Bruce Crabtree

SOVEREIGN GRACE CHURCH

January 10th, 2021

We gather together
Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. and
Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m.

Nursery available for 4 years old and younger

"Say not thou, I will recompense evil; but wait on the LORD, and he shall save thee."

(Proverbs 20:22)

JOSEPH D MURPHY, PASTOR

(832) 995 7925 / letters@sovereigngrace.us

SOVEREIGN GRACE CHURCH

23033 HUGHEY LN, NEW CANEY, TEXAS 77357 / (832) 543-533

www.sovereigngracechurch.us

Servicio en español domingos 6 p.m. y martes 7 p.m.

When the Gospel is preached, there are two things always taking place (even though most are unaware of it). Some are being prepared for glory, others are being hardened. Some are being brought to light, some are left sitting in darkness. Some see Christ and His glory, others see no beauty about Him. Some who hear the Gospel have their hearts made tender towards sin, others have their hearts hardened in sin. No wonder we say, *"Who is sufficient for these things?"* The question we should all be asking is, "How is the preaching of the Gospel affecting me?" — Donnie Bell

---

Welcome

Sinners are welcome at Sovereign Grace Church. We are a local body of the Lord Jesus Christ. As you spend time with us, you'll soon discover we're an imperfect assembly, with an imperfect pastor, yet by God's underserved grace, we preach, believe, and know the perfect gospel of our never failing Lord Jesus Christ. Reader, we call His name JESUS for HE SHALL (not might, not maybe) rather HE SHALL save His people from their sins. And beloved believing sinner you already know it — you are complete in Him, saved to the uttermost (Hebrews 7:26).

Announcements

Sovereign Grace Bible Conference

David Eddmenson

February 26th, 27th, & 28th

Happy Birthday!

Samantha Spring, January 9th

Resources

Be sure to visit our websites for gospel articles, live messages, and resources.

Grace Articles

"Say not thou, I will recompense evil…"

"*…we know Him that hath said, Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord…*" (**Hebrews 10:30**)

"Vengeance belongeth unto me"—is the awful proclamation of God. Most reverently do His people adore this High prerogative [Deuteronomy 32:35, Romans 12:19, Hebrews 10:30]. Who besides is fitted to wield it? He is Omniscient; we know… imperfectly. He is without passions; we are blinded by our selfish lusts. He is just, "without partiality;" we are prejudiced on our own side. What *presumption*, therefore, not to say impiety, for the angry worm to entrench upon His prerogative! Revenge is indeed a cherished lust of the flesh [even the heathen acknowledge it]. Were it not for the Divine restraint upon it, this world would be an "Aceldama—a field of blood." But never did the Lord allow it in His people [Matthew 5:38-42]. Not even an Edomite, their most bitter enemy; not even the Egyptian, their most cruel oppressor—was to be abhorred [Deuteronomy 26:7]. The folly and sin of this passion are alike manifest. 'He that studieth revenge, keepeth his own wounds open.' His enemy could not do him a greater injury. The tongue, *"speaking like the piercings of a sword,"* (Proverbs 12:18, 25:18) is here the instrument of this passion. Yet often, when the open purpose is restrained, the passion broods only the more fiercely within [Genesis 27:41]. Or at least it is only a reluctant obedience, not the glorious victory exhibited in the history of the men of God– "overcoming evil with good" [Romans 12:21, Genesis 45:5].

What then is the remedy? In humility and faith lay our matters before the Lord. Put them in His hands. Wait on Him, and He shall save us. Revenge rises, only because we have no faith. For did we believe that God would take up our cause, should we not leave ourselves implicitly in His hands? How did He plead the cause of "the meekest man upon earth!" [Numbers 12:1-10]. With what confidence did David rest himself in the midst of reproach [2 Samuel 16:12, Psalm 38-12-15], thus warranting his rule of faith by his own experience! [Psalm 37:5,6] And thus did David's Lord *"commit Himself unto Him that judgeth righteously"* (1 Peter 2:23). After this blessed example therefore, *"let those, that suffer according to the will of God, commit the keeping of their souls to Him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator"* (1 Peter 4:19). 'Let it suffice thee for "possessing thine own soul in patience," to know, that all shall be righted one day. God will set all straight at the last; but that day is not yet.' Be satisfied then with His management [His reign, His rule!]. Suffice it, that "He shall deliver and save, because we put our trust in Him." [Beloved, because of our faithful Creator's *own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began*] let us stay our souls, as His praying people, on the great consummation. *"Shall not God avenge His own elect, which cry day and night unto Him, though He bear long with them? I tell you, that He will avenge them speedily…"* (Luke 18:7-8). [*…and He shall save thee*!]— Copied